

Beechwold Christian Church

Statement of Faith

We believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit (John 14:9-20; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 5:1-12).

We believe in God the Father, Creator of all things visible and invisible (Genesis 1:1; Matthew 5:16, 45; 6:1-9; Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 11:3; James 1:17).

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the one and only Savior. (John 1:1, 14, 29; 3:16; Philippians 2:6-11; Colossians 1:15-19; 1 John 4:9).

- Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (Luke 1:26-35).
- Who was both fully human and fully God (Colossians 2:9).
- Who lived a sinless life (Hebrews 4:15).
- Who was crucified on a cross for our sins (Romans 5:15-17; Luke 22:47-24:53).
- Who rose from the dead on the third day (John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8).
- Who ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:1-9).
- Who will return again (Revelation 1:7-8; 11:15).

We believe in the Holy Spirit.

- Who convicts us of sin (John 16:8).
- Who dwells in every Christian (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14).
- Who helps us in our weakness and in our prayers (Romans 8:26).
- Who empowers us to live a fruitful Christian life (Galatians 5:22-23).

We believe in the Bible—God's Holy Word (Mark 12:24; John 14:26; 16:12-15; Acts 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:14-16).

We believe God inspired the original writings of the Old and New Testament without error, and that today; the New Testament is God's authoritative message for Christians (Galatians 3:23-25; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

We believe that the New Testament is the final authority for all matters of faith, truth, morality, and Christian living (Matthew 5:18; 24:35; Romans 15:4).

We believe the Bible teaches that God is the Creator and Sustainer of human life; that God creates each person in His image; and that life is therefore sacred, from conception to natural death. We believe God creates each person as male or female; that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the "image of God" in humankind; and

that each person's biological gender is a basic, undeniable aspect of his or her nature and identity (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7, 21-22; Psalm 139:13-18; Matthew 19:4-6).

We believe the Bible teaches that God established marriage in the beginning as a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman, that He has reserved sexual intimacy as an expression of love and commitment between married couples, and that any intimate expression of sexuality outside of Biblical marriage is sin (Genesis 2:23-25; Exodus 20:14-17, 22:19; Leviticus 18:1-20, 22-23; 20:11-21; Matthew 19:9; Romans 1:18-31; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 15-20; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Jude 7).

We believe in the Gospel-Good News of Salvation.

We believe every person has willfully sinned against God and is therefore lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ (Isaiah 53:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23).

We believe salvation—the forgiveness of sins—is only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Matthew 26:28; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7).

We believe that one receives salvation by placing trust in Jesus Christ, repenting of sin, confessing Christ, and that the Bible commands every believer in Christ to be baptized by immersion (Romans 5:1-2; 10:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; Acts 2:38, 3:19; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21).

We believe that those who have received salvation through faith in Jesus Christ are sent into the world to proclaim the gospel and to love and serve the world just as Jesus Himself did (2 Corinthians 5:11-21; Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21).

We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ, founded on the Day of Pentecost, consisting of all Christians everywhere, and organized into local assemblies, called churches (Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 2:14-47).

We believe the Bible teaches that every Christian should be an active member of a local church (Hebrews 10:24-25).

We believe that the Elders of the church are the overseers of its affairs and the shepherds of its members; that they are the final interpretive authority of the Bible's meaning and application for the church; and that they are responsible for the oversight, instruction, edification, discipline, and restoration of church members (1 Peter 5:1-4; Titus 1:9, 2:1-15; Hebrews 13:17; Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 5:1; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13).